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PRODUCTION AND COMMERCE.

A Century of American Wool Manufacture, 1790-1890. By S. N. D. North, Secretary of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers. Pp. 81.

This descriptive history of the wool manufacture was written to accompany a special report on that industry in the Eleventh Census. Owing to changes in the administration of that office it was decided to omit this historical portion of the report and confine the census part more strictly to statistical tables. It is stated that "some of the information here collected together has never before been published." This is a reprint from the *Bulletin of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers* for September, 1894.

Report on Agriculture by Irrigation in the Western Part of the United States at the 11th Census: 1890. F. H. Newell. Washington, 1894. Pp. 283.

This report shows the relative importance of irrigation in the arid region and the sub-humid region of the western part of the United States. The number of persons irrigating their farms was 52,584, and the acres irrigated, 3,564,416. The average value of products per acre for the arid region was \$14.89. This report is well illustrated by maps and illustrations.

Rapport du Ministre des Finances A. S. M. l'Empereur sur le Budget de l'Empire. Pour l'Exercice, 1895. St. Petersburg, 1894. Pp. 55. Published also in English.

In addition to the annual statements in regard to the state of the treasury, there is a succinct summary of industrial progress in Russia during the past twelve years. For example, the manufacture of cast iron has risen from 27.3 million poods in 1881 to 70.8 million poods in 1893; the manufacture of iron has risen from 17.9 million poods in 1880 to 30.1 million poods in 1893; the production of steel has increased from 18.7 million poods to 29.8 million poods in the same period; manganese has increased from 0.6 million poods to 15.2 million poods in 1893. Quicksilver has increased rapidly, so that now Russia is an exporter instead of an importer. The yield of coal has risen from 200.9 million poods in 1880 to 460.2 million poods in 1893. The production of salt has increased from 47.5 to 88 million

poods. There has been an immense development of mineral oils. In 1880 the yield of naphtha was only 21.4 million poods; in 1893, 337 million poods. There has been a marked progress in cotton growing, and at present Russian cotton meets about 25 per cent of the home demand. The number of spindles now amounts to about six millions, and there are two hundred thousand looms. The manufacture of sugar has risen from 15.9 million poods to 35.6 million poods. During these thirteen years the export of goods has exceeded the import by more than 2000 million roubles. There has been a large development in credit facilities. In 1881 the state bank had 55 branches, and now it has 107. The number of savings banks has increased from 76 to 3180, and the total deposits from 9 million roubles, on 100,000 accounts, to 328.5 million roubles on 1,500,000 accounts.

California Breadstuffs. By Horace Davis. University of Chicago Press. 1894. Pp. 517-612. A reprint from the *Journal of Political Economy* of Chicago.

The history of California breadstuffs is divided into eight periods; (1) 1769-1821, (2) 1822-46, (3) 1847-52, (4) 1852-60, (5) 1860-70, (6) 1870-80, (7) 1880-90, (8) 1890-94. The paper is illustrated by four charts. The conclusion of the study is that the wheat yield of the state is diminishing, and that wheat cultivation does not pay. Other products of the soil pay better, and wheat farming is being abandoned. Mr. Davis does not believe that the California wheat-grower can stand up long against the present odds, and must turn his land to other uses. He must follow the English farmer in going to the wall.

The Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States for the Year Ending June 30, 1894. Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department. Washington, 1895. Pp. cxiv, 840.

This report shows a radical change in form and arrangement, and because of the unusual tax made upon the office for this purpose the usual résumé is omitted. The report is now somewhat similar in form to one of the larger volumes of the Census office.

Eighth Annual Report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, December 1, 1894. Washington. Pp. 271.

Appendix G, dealing with statistics of railways, is to be published as a separate document.

Report of the Seventh Annual Meeting, Hartford Board of Trade. 1895. Pp. 33.

Pixley and Abell's Circular. London, England. February 22 to March 15, 1895.

Ellison & Co.'s Monthly Cotton Report. Liverpool, England. December 13, 1894, to March 18, 1895.

Department of Agriculture: United States. Farmers' Bulletin, No. 23. Foods: Nutritive Value and Cost. By W. O. Atwater, Ph.D. 1894. Pp. 32.

Division of Statistics of Department of Agriculture. Report of the Statistician. Washington. September, 1894, to February, 1895. Nos. 119-123.

Michigan Crop Report. Monthly Issues. No. 155, September, 1894; 161, March 1, 1895.

Statistical Report of the Illinois State Board of Agriculture. Springfield. August 1, 1894; pp. 47. December 1, 1894; pp. 90.

Twenty-Seventh Annual Report of the San Francisco Produce Exchange. July, 1894. Pp. 88.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

Tenth Annual Report of the Board of Gas and Electric Light Commissioners of Massachusetts. January, 1895. Pp. 157, clviii.

Of special interest in this report are the pages on municipal ownership of gas or electric-light plants. Ten towns now have plants in operation, though only two of these supply gas as well as electric light. Three of these towns do not engage in commercial business. Statistics are given showing the cost of manufacturing under this system.

During the past year there were 32 deaths resulting from inhalation of illuminating gas.

Twenty companies have reduced the price of gas during the year ending June 30, 1894. A very complete table is given showing the average candle power and the average price charged by various com-